(c) if so, whether Government is taking any effective steps to tackle this problem; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), around 20% teaching posts and 18% non-teaching posts were lying vacant in Central Universities as on 31st October, 2007. Some of the Universities have reported that they are facing problems due to shortage of non-teaching staff.

Each Central University is governed by its individual Act of Parliament and the Statutes made thereunder. In terms of the relevant Statutes, the appointments to the teaching as also non-teaching posts in a University are made by its Executive Council/Board of Management on the recommendations of a Selection Committee constituted in accordance with the provisions of these Statutes. The Selection Committee includes, *inter-alia*, a nominee of the visitor. in so far as teaching posts and certain non-teaching posts specified in the Statutes are concerned. In view of the foregoing, while this Ministry role is limited to providing the Visitor's nominees to the Selection Committees, the Government, through the UGC, keeps reminding the Central Universities to fill the vacant posts. To sum up the other steps taken, the UGC has requested all the Universities to make use of the existing provision for re-employment of superannuated teachers as per the norms of the Commission; the Central Government has enhanced the age of superannuation from 62 to 65 years in respect of teachers of Central Universities, amongst other centrally funded institutions under the purview of this Ministry; and while the Expenditure Reforms Commission had imposed a ban on filling up of non-teaching posts, each Central University has been authorized to fill up technical posts, amongst non-teaching ministerial posts, and report to the UGC for ratification by a Committee constituted for the purpose.

**Checking of irregularities in private schools**

3599. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to constitute an authority to check irregularities in private schools;

(b) whether some public schools, which were given land at concessional rates, were not providing free education to the poor children, in accordance with the land allotment terms;

(c) whether Government is aware that many public schools are not appointing proper qualified teaching professionals, and are also not giving salary to them as per Government scales; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to check these kinds of irregularities in private schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI ): (a) Education being a concurrent subject, private schools primarily come under the purview of the State Governments. So far as private schools affiliated to Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) are concerned, appropriate action including withdrawal of affiliation is resorted to if any school is found guilty of irregularities.

(b) The Affiliation Bye-laws of CBSE do not contain any provision for imposing conditions on institutions, which are provided land by the State/Union Territory Governments on concessional rates. Such conditions are imposed by the respective State/UT Governments allotting land on concessional rates and these conditions vary from state to state.

(c) and (d) Most of the public schools come under the purview of State Government. Sporadic complaints have been received by CBSE regarding appointment of unqualified teachers and non payment of salary in its affiliated schools. The affiliation Bye-laws of CBSE prescribe that schools should only appoint teaching staff possessing the necessary qualification for various course/subjects as prescribed by the Board. Further, the affiliation Bye-laws state that school must pay salaries and allowances to the staff not less than the corresponding categories of employees in the State Government Schools or as per scales, etc. prescribed by the Government of India. Schools affiliated to CBSE are expected to follow provisions of Affiliation Bye-Laws of the Board. In the event of violation of rules and any school being found guilty of irregularities appropriate action including withdrawal of affiliation in some cases is taken.

**Scrapping of architecture wing of School of Planning and Architecture**

3600. DR. M. A. M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the future of many under-graduate architecture students of the School of Planning & Architecture is in jeopardy, due to the recommendations of the Council of Architecture for scrapping the institutions architecture wing;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the guidelines which have not been adhered to by the School of Planning and Architecture, as accused by the Council of Architecture; and

(d) the corrective measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) A representation has been received from Council of Architecture (COA) vide which the following Resolution No. 377 of the COA has been forwarded with the request to the Central Government for initiating action for notifying the de-recognition of the qualification:

"(i) The Central Government is recommended to de-recognise the Bachelor of Architecture Degree awarded by the School of Planning & Architecture, to the students admitted and trained after 1st September, 2006, under Section 20 of the Architects Act, 1972; and

(ii) The Registrar, Council of Architecture is directed to not to register any pass out students who are admitted and trained at School of Planning & Architecture, New Delhi [Inst. Code: DL01], after 1st September, 2006, as an architect under the Architects Act, 1972."

The explanation of the SPA, New Delhi is to be obtained under the sub-section 2 and 3 of section 20 of the Architects Act, 1972. The Central Government can take a decision on the representation of the COA only after considering the explanation of the SPA, New Delhi and following the further procedure as prescribed in the sub-section 4 of section 20 of the Architects Act, 1972.